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# Message Text

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43
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 /060 W
---------- 052226
R 161330Z JAN 75
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9526

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUENOS AIRES 0326

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, AR
SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE BRANCH TERMINATES SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS

REF BA 8870

1. EXECUTIVE BRANCH YESTERDAY (JAN 13) ISSUED DECREE TERMINATING SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS WHICH IT HAD CONVOKED IN EARLY DECEMBER (SEE REFTEL). CONGRESS THUS WILL NOT RECONVENE UNTIL MAY 1 WHEN REGULAR SESSION BEGINS. SPECIAL SESSIONS WERE RECESSED ON DEC 20 FOR VACATION PERIOD BUT WERE TO HAVE BEGUN AGAIN IN MID-FEB. EXECUTIVE BRANCH'S EXPLANATION FOR TERMINATING ACTION WAS THAT MOST URGENT MATTERS (BUDGET, ETC.) HAD ALREADY BEEN HANDLED, AND THAT IN VIEW OF LENGTHY VACATION PERIOD, IT WAS DEEMED INAPPROPRIATE TO LEAVE BILLS PENDING.

2. THERE ARE SOME OBVIOUS INCONSISTENCIES IN EXPLANATION. FOR ONE THING, AMONG MEASURES WHICH CONGRESS WAS TO HAVE TAKEN UP IN FEB WERE STATE OF SIEGE AND FEDERAL INTERVENTIONS OF SALTA AND SANTA CRUZ. THESE ARE STEPS WHICH EXECUTIVE BRANCH HAD ALREADY TAKEN AND WHICH NOW SIMPLY NEEDED CONGRESS' PRO FORMA APPROVAL. HENCE, THEY WERE NOT PENDING IN SENSE THAT ACTION BEING HELD UP.

3. AS INDICATED IN REFTEL, THERE NO DOUBT THAT FREJULI MAJORITY COULD HAVE PRODUCED APPROVAL OF STATE OF SIEGE, INTERVENTIONS
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AND SEVERAL OTHER CONTROVERSIAL ITEMS. OPPOSITION, HOWEVER,

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WOULD HAVE HEATEDLY DEBATED THEM AND GOVT HAS SHOWN ITSELF INCREASINGLY SENSITIVE TO ANY KIND OF CRITICISM. INDEED, SPECIAL SESSION RECESSED DEC 20 ON SOUR NOTE AND NO QUORUM WHEN MAJORITY OF PERONIST DEPUTIES STAYED AWAY BECAUSE UCR AND OTHER OPPOSITION PARTIES INSISTED ON DEBATING CLOSURE OF NEWSPAPERS CRONICA AND LA CALLE.

4. A NUMBER OF UCR CONGRESSMEN HAVE EXPRESSED OPINION THAT GOVT HAS TERMINATED SPECIAL SESSIONS IN ORDER TO DENY TO OPPOSITION PARTIES PLATFORM FROM WHICH TO CRITICIZE VARIOUS GOVT POLICIES AND MEASURES. ON BASIS OF EVIDENCE AT HAND, EMBASSY INCLINED TO AGREE.
HILL

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NNN

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# Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994
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**TAGS:** PINT, AR
**To:** STATE
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